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THE Famous Historie of Fryer B A C O N.

Containing the wonderfull things that he
did in his Life: Also the manner of his Death;
With the Liues and Deaths of the two Coniurers,
Bungye and Vandermaſt.

Very pleasant and delightfull to be read.

Blifſſchap doet, het leuen yer Langhen.



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1871

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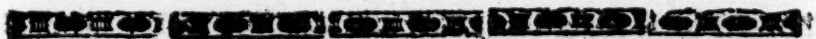
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Of the Parents and Birth of Fryer *Bacon*, and how he
addicted himselfe to Learning.



He was boꝛne by most mens opinions on
the West part of England, and was sonne
to a wealthy Farmer, who put him to
Schole to the Parson of the Towne
where he was boꝛne : not with intent
that he should turne Fryer (as he did) but
to get so much vnderstanding, that he might manage the
better that wealth he was to leane him. But young

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Bacon took his learning so fast, that the Priest could not teach him any more, which made him desire his Father that he would speake to his Father to put him to Oxford, that he might not lose that little learning that he had gained : his Father was very willing so to doe : and one day meeting his Father, told him, that he had received a great blessing of God, in that he had given him so wise and hopesfull a child , as his sonne Roger Bacon was (for so was he named) and wished him withall to doe his duty, and to bring up so his Child, that he might shew his thankfulness to God, which could not better be done then in making of him a Scholler; for he found by his sodaine taking of his learning , that he was a child likely to prove a very great Clerke : herat old Bacon was not well pleased (for he desired to bring him up to Plough and to the Cart , as hee himselve was brought) yet he for reuerence sake to the Priest, shewed not his anger, but kindly thanked him for his paines and counsell , yet desired him not to speake any more concerning that matter ; for hee knew best what best pleased himselve, and that he would doe : so broke they off their talke, and parted.

So sone as the old man came home, he called to his Sonne for his booke, which when he had, he lock'd them up, and gaue the Boy a Cart whip in the place of them, saying to him : Boy, I will haue you no priest, you shall not be better learned then I, you can tell now by the Almanack when it is best sowing Wheat, when Barly, Pease, and Beane : and when the best libbing is, when to sell Graine and Cattell I will teach thee; for I haue all Faies and Markets as perfit in my memozy, as Sir Iohn our Priest has Masse without Booke: take mee this whip, I will teach thee the vse of it, I will be more profitable to thee then this harsh Latin : make no reply, but follow my counsell , or else by the Masse thou shalt feelee the smart hand of my anger. Young Bacon thought this but hard dealing, yet would he not reply, but within five or eight dayes

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dayes he gaue his Father the slip, and went to a Cloyster some twenty miles off, where he was entertained, and so continued his Learning, and in small time came to be so famous, that he was sent for to the Vniuersity of Orford, where he long time studied, and grew so excellent in the secrets of Art and Nature, that not England onely, but all Chzistendome admired him.

How the King sent for Fryer Bacon, and of the wonderfull things he shewed the King and Queene.

The King being in Orfordshire, at a Noblemans house was very desirous to see this famous Fryer, for he had heard many times of his wondrous things that he had done by his Art: therefore he sent one for him to desire him to come to the Court. Fryer Bacon kindly thanked the King by the Messenger, and said, that he was at the Kings seruice, and would suddenly attend him: but Sir, saith he (to the Gentleman) I pray make you haste, or else I shall be two houres before you at the Court. For all your Learning (answered the Gentleman) I can hardly beleue this, for Schollers, old men and travellers, may lye by authority. To strengthen your belife (said Fryer Bacon) I could presently shew you the last Wench that you lay withall, but I will not at this time. One is as true as the other (said the Gentleman) and I would laugh to see either. You shall see them both within these foure houres, quoth the Fryer, and therefore make what haste you can. I will present that by my speed (said the Gentleman) and with that rid his way; but he rode out of his way, as it should seeme; for he had but five miles to ride, and yet was he better then three houres a riding them; so that Fryer Bacon by his Art was with the King before he came.

The King kindly welcommed him, and said that hee
— long

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long time had desired to see him; for he had as yet not heard of his life. Fryer Bacon answered him that same had belied him, and given him that report that his poore Studies had neuer deserved, for hee believed that Art had many Sonnes more excellent then himselfe was. The King commended him for his modesty, and told him, that nothing did become a wise man lesse then boasting: but yet withall he requested him now to be no niggard of his knowledge, but to shew his Duene and him some of his skill. I were worthy of neither Art or knowledge (quod, Fryer Bacon) should I deny your Maestie this small request: I pray seat your selues, and you shall see presently what my poore skill can performe: the King, Duene, and Nobles satc them all downe. They hauing so done, the Fryer waied his wand, and presently was heard such excellent Musicke that they were all amazed, for they all said they had neuer heard the like. This is, said the Fryer, to delight the sense of hearing, I will delight all your other senses ere you depart hence: so wauing his wand againe, there was lowder Musicke heard, and presently five dancers entred, the first like a Court-Laundresse, the second like a Footman, the third like an Usurer, the fourth like a Prodigall, the fift like a Fole: these did diuers excellent changes, so that they gaue content to all the beholders, and hauing done their dance, they all vanished away in their order as they came in. Thus feasted he two of their senses: When waied he his wand againe, and there was another kinde of Musicke heard, and whilst it was playing, there was sodainly befoze them a Table richly couered with all sorts of delicates: then desired he the King and Duene to taste of some certaine rare fruits that were on the Table, which they and the Nobles there present did, and were very highly pleased with the taste; they being satisfied, all vanished away on the roaine. When waied he his wand againe, and sodainly there was such a smell, as if all the rich perfumes in the whole world had bin there prepared in the best manner that Art could

could set them out: whilst hee feasted thus their smelling,
 he waied his wand againe, and there came diuers Na-
 tions in sundry habits (as Russians, Polanders, Indi-
 ans, Armenians) all bzinging sundry kinds of Furrres,
 such as their Countreies yelded: all which they presented
 to the King and Quene: these Furrres were so soft in
 the touch, that they highly pleased all those that handled
 them, then after some odde fantasticke dances (after their
 Countrey manner) they vanished away: then asked
 Fryer Bacon the Kings Maiesty, if that hee desired any
 moze of his skill: the King answered that hee was fully
 satisfied for that time, and that hee onely now thought of
 something that hee might bestow on him, that might
 partly satisfie the kindnesse that hee had receiued. Fryer
 Bacon said, that hee desired nothing so much as his Ma-
 iesties loue, and if that he might be assured of that, hee
 would thinke himselfe happy in it: so that (said the
 King) be thou euer sure of it, in token of which receiue
 this Jewell, and withall gaue him a costly Jewell from
 his necke. The Fryer did with great reuerence thanke
 his Maiestie, and said: as your Maiesties bassall you
 shall euer finde me ready to doe you seruice, your time of
 neede shall finde it both beneficiall and delightfull. But
 amongst al these Gentlemen, I see not the man that your
 Grace did send for me by, sure he hath lost his way, or
 else met with some sport that detaines him so long. I
 promised to be here befoze him, and all this noble Assem-
 bly can witnesse I am as good as my word: I heare him
 comming: with that entered the Gentleman all beduited
 (so he had rid through ditches, quagmires, plashes, and
 waters, that hee was in a most pittifull case) hee seeing
 the Fryer there looked full angerly, and bid a pore on all
 his Devils, for they had fed him out of his way, and al-
 most drowned him. Be not angry Sir (said Fryer Ba-
 con) here is an old friend of yours that hath moze cause:
 for he hath carried these three houres for you (with that
 hee pulled by the Hangings, and behinde them stood a

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Bitchin-mayde with a basting-ladle in her hand) now am I as good as my word with you: for I promised to helpe you to your Sweetheart, how do you like this? So ill, answered the Gentleman, that I will be reuenged of you. Threaten not (said Fryer Bacon) least I do you moze shame, and doe you take here how you giue schollers the lye againe: but because I know not how well you are set with money at this time, I will beare your wenchs charges home: with that she vanished away: the King, Queene, and all the company laughed to see with what shame this Gentleman indured the sight of his greasse Sweetheart: but the Gentleman went away discontented. This done Fryer Bacon tooke his leaue of the King and Queene, and receiued from them diuers gifts (as well as thankses) for his Art he shewed them.

How Fryer Bacon deceiued his Man, that would fast for his conscience sake.

Fryer Bacon had one onely man to attend on him, and he too was none of the wisest, for hee kept him in charity, moze then for any seruice he had of him. This man of his (named Miles) neuer could indure to fast as other religious persons did, for alwayes hee had in one corner, or another, flesh, which hee would eate when his Maister eat bread only, or else did fast and abstaine from all things. Fryer Bacon seeing this, thought at one time or other to be euen with him, which he did one Fryday in this manner Miles on the Thursday night had provided a great blacke-pudding for his Frydayes fast: this pudding put he in his pocket (thinking belike to heate it so, for his Maister had no fire on those dayes) on the next day, who was so demure as Miles, hee looked as though hee would not haue eat any thing: when his Maister

of Fryer Bacon.

Maister offered him some bread, he refused it, saying, his sinnes deserved a greater penance then one dayes fast in a whole weeke: his Maister commended him for it, and bid him take heed that he did not dissemble: for if he did, it would at last be knowne; then were I worse then a Turke said Miles: so went he forth as if he would haue gone to pray privately, but it was for nothing but to prey upon his blacke pudding; that pulled he out, (for it was halfe roasted with the heate of his bum) and fell to it lustily; but he was deceived, for having put one end in his mouth, he could neither get it out againe nor bit it off, so that hee stamped out for helpe: his Maister hearing him, came, and finding him in that manner, tooke hold of the other end of the pudding, and led him to the hall, and shewed him to all the Schollers, saying: See here my good friends and fellow Students what, deuout man my seru-
uant Miles is, he loneth not to breake a fast day, witnesse this puding that his conscience will not let him swallow: I will haue him to be an example for you all, then tyed hee him to a window by the end of the pudding, where poore Miles stood like a Beare tyed by the nose to a stake, and endured many floutes and mockes: at night his Maister released him from his penance; Miles was glad of it, and did vow neuer to breake more fast dayes whilst that he liued.

How Fryer Bacon saued a Gentleman that had giuen himselfe to the Deuill.

In Oxfordshire there liued a Gentleman, that had through his riotous expences waisted a faire Inheritance that was left him by his father: After which hee grew so poore, that hee had not wherewith to buy himselfe so much bread as would mainteine his miserable life: the memory of his former state that he had liued

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in, and the present want that he now sustained, made him to grow desperate and regardlesse both of his soule and bodies estate: which gaue the Deuill occasion to worke vpon his weaknesse in this manner following.

On a time, hee being alone full of griefe and care, (griefe for his folies past, and care how to get a poore liuing for the remainder of his dayes) the Deuill came to him and asked him what hee wanted (hee came not in a shape terrible, but like an old penny-father.) This Gentleman was amazed at his sodaine presence, but hearing him demand of his wants, hee took to him courage and said: I want all things, I want money to buy my apparell, money to buy mee meat, money to redeeme my Land, and money to pay my debts: Can you will you helpe mee in this misery? I will answered the Deuill, on some conditions helpe you to money for to supply all these wants, and that sodainly. On any condition, said the Gentleman, helpe mee, and I sweare for to performe them: I take no oathes (answered the Deuill) I must haue bonds, if you will doe so, meet mee by the Woods side to morrow morning, and there I will haue the moneys ready: I will said the Gentleman (for hee poore man was glad of it on any conditions, as he said before.) The next day hee went to the Wood where the Deuill had promised to meet him: long had hee not beene there, but he beheld the Deuill comming, and after him two other like Seruingmen with Bagges of money: this reioyced the poore Gentlemans heart to thinke that hee should once againe liue like a man. The Deuill comming to him said: sonne I will performe my promise vnto you if that you will seale to the conditions that I haue here already drawne: willingly said the Gentleman, I will, I pray read them. The Deuill read them to this effect: that he lent him so much money as he should haue need of, to be employed to these uses following: First, to redeeme his morgag'd Land: next to pay his debts: lastly, to buy him such necessaries as hee wanted;

of Fryer Bacon.

ted: this to be lent on this condition, that so soone as he had paid all his debts, that he should be at the lenders disposing, and without any delay, freely to yeeld himselfe to him vpon the first demand of the aforesaid lender. To this the Gentleman sealed, and had the money carried to his Chamber, with which money hee in shozt time redeemed his Land, and bought such things as he needed, and likewise payed all his debts, so that there was not any man that could aske him one penny.

Thus lined this Gentleman once againe in great credit, and grew so great a husband that he increased his estate, and was richer then ener his father befoze him was: but long did this ioy of his not continue, for one day hee being in his Studie the Deuil appeared vnto him, and did tell him that now his Land was redeemed, and his debts paid, and therefore the time was come that hee must yeeld himselfe to his mercy, as hee was bound by bond. This troubled the Gentleman to heare, but moze to thinke how that he must become a slave to a stranger that hee did not know (for hee knew not as yet that he was the Deuill) but being vrged to answer for himselfe (by the Deuill) hee said that he had not as yet paid all his debts, and therefore as yet hee was not liable to the bonds strait conditions. At this the Deuill seemed angry and with a fearefull noyse transformed himselfe to an ugly shape, saying: Alas poore wretch, these are poore excuses that thou framest, I know them all to be false, and so will proue them to thy face to morrow morning, till when I leaue thee to despaire: So with great noyse he went his way, leaving the Gentleman halfe dead with feare.

When he was gone, the Gentleman remiuing he thought himselfe in what a miserable state he was now in, then wished he that he had lined and died poorely, then cursed he all his ambitious thoughts, that led him first to desire againe that wealth which he had so vainly by his riot lost: then would hee cutte his prodigall expences that

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that were the originall of all his misery: thus was he tormented along time in his minde, at last he fully resolved to end his wretched life by some violent death, and to that end he went forth thinking to kill himselfe, which he had done, had it not bene for the Fryer: for as he was falling vpon his sword, Fryer Bacon came by and called to him to hold, which he did. Fryer Bacon demanded of him the cause why he was so desperate that he would run head long to hell? O sir, said he, the cause is great, and the relation is so terrible to me, that I would intreat you not to trouble me any more, but to leaue me to my owne wil: his answer filled the Fryer with amazement & pittie both at once, which made him to vrg him in this manner. Sir, should I leaue you to his wilfull damnation, I were vnfit euer hereafter to weare or touch any robe that belongeth vnto the holy Order, whereof I am a Brother: you know (I doubt not) that there is giuen power to the Church to absolve penitent sinners, let not your wilfulnesse take away from you that benefit which you may receiue by it: freely confesse your selfe (I pray) you vnto me, and doubt not but I shall giue your troubled conscience ease: Father (said this Gentleman) I know all that you haue spoken is truth, and I haue many times receiued comfort from the mother Church, (I dare not say our, for I feare that shee will neuer receiue me for a childe) I haue no part in her benediction, yet since you request so earnestly the cause, I will tell you, heare it and tremble. Know then that I haue giuen my selfe to the deuil for a little wealth, and he to morrow in this Wood must haue me: now haue you my grieffe, but I know not how to get comfort. This is strange (quoth Fryer Bacon) yet be of good comfort, penitentiall teares may doe much, which see you doe not spare: some I will visit you at your house, and giue you that comfort (I hope) that will beget you againe to goodness: the Gentleman with these words was somewhat comforted and returned home. At night Fryer Bacon

of Fryer Bacon.

Bacon came to him, and found him full of teares for his haynous offences, for this teares he gaue him hope of pardon, demanded further what conditions hee had made with the deuill: the Gentleman told him, how that he had promised himselfe to him so soone as hee had paid all his debts: which he now had done, for he owed not one peny to any man liuing. Well said Fryer Bacon, continue thy sorow for thy sinnes, and to morrow meete him without feare, and be thou content to stand to the next mans iudgement that shall come that way, whether thou doest belong to the Deuill or no: feare not, but do so, and be thou assured that I will be he that shall come by, and will giue such iudgement on thy side, that thou shalt be free from him: with that Fryer Bacon went home, and the Gentleman went to his prayers.

In the morning the Gentleman (after that hee had blessed himselfe) went to the Wood where he found the Deuill ready for him, so soone as he came nere, the deuill said, now deceiuer are you come, now shall thou see that I can and will proue that thou hast paid all thy debts, and therefore thy soule belongeth to me. Thou art a deceiuer (said the Gentleman) and gauest me money to cheat me of my soule, for else why wilt thou be thy own Iudge: let me haue some other to iudge betwene vs. Content said the Deuill, take whom thou wilt: then I will haue (said the Gentleman) the next man that cometh this way: hereto the Deuill agreed. So sooner were these words ended, but Fryer Bacon came by, to whom this Gentleman speake, and requested, that he would be iudge in a waighty matter betwene them two: the Fryer said, he was content, so both parties were agreed: the Deuill said they were, and told Fryer Bacon how the case stood betwene them in this manner.

Know Fryer, that I seeing this prodigall like to starue for want of food, lent him money, not onely to buy him victuals, but also to redeme his lands and pay his debts, conditionally that so soone as his debts were paid, that
he

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hē should giue him selfe freely to mē, to this hē is his hand (shewing him the Bond) now my time as expired, for all his debts are paid which hē cannot denie. This case is plaine, if it be so that his debts are paid: his silence confirms it said the Diuell, therefore giue him a iust sentence. I will said Fryer Bacon: But first tell me (speaking to the Gentleman) didst thou neuer yet giue the Deuill any of his money backe, nor requite him any wayes: neuer had hē any thing of me as yet (answered the Gentleman) then neuer let him haue any thing of thē and thou art free: deceiuer of mankind, said he (speaking to the Deuill) it was thy bargaine, neuer to meddle with him so long as hē was indebted to any, now how canst thou demand of him any thing, when he is indebted for all that hē hath to see, when hee payeth thē thy money, then take him as thy due; till then thou hast nothing to doe with him: and so I charge thē to be gone. At this, the Deuill vanished with great horrour, but Fryer Bacon comforted the Gentleman, and sent him home with a quiet conscience, bidding him neuer to pay the Devils money backe as he tended his owne safety: which he promised for to obserue.

How Fryer *Bacon* made a Brasen head to speake, by the which hee would haue walled *England* about with Brasse.

Fryer Bacon reading one day of the many conquests of *England*, bethought himselfe how hē might keepe it hereafter from the like conquests, and so make himselfe famous hereafter to all posterities, This (after great study) hē found could be no way so well done as one; which was to make a head of Brasse, and if he could make this head to speake (and heare it when it speakes) then might hē be able to wall all *England* about with Brasse. To this purpose hē got one Fryer Bungey to assist him, who was a great Scholler and a Magician, (but

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(but not to bee compared to Fryer Bacon) these two with great study and paines so framed a head of Masse, that in the inward parts thereof there was all things like as in a naturall mans head : this being done, they were as farre from perfection of the worke as they were befoze, for they knew not how to giue those parts that they had made motion, without which it was impossible that it should speake : many booke they read, but yet could not finde out any hope of what they sought, that at the last they concluded to raise a spirit, and to know of him that which they could not attaine to by their owne studies. To do this they prepared all things ready and went one Euening to a Wood thereby, and after many ceremonies vsed, they spake the words of coniuration, which the Deuill straight obeyed and appeared vnto them, asking what they would : know, said Fryer Bacon, that wee haue made an artificiall head of Masse, which wee would haue to speake, to the furtherance of which wee haue raised thee, and being raised, wee will here keepe thee, vlesse thou tel to vs the way and manner how to make this head to speake. The Deuill told him that he had not that power of himselfe : beginner of lyes (said Fryer Bacon) I know that thou dost dissemble, and therefore tell it vs quickly, or else wee will here bind the to remaine during our pleasures. At these threats the Deuill consented to doe it, and told them, that with continuall fume of the six hottest Simples it should haue motion, and in one month space speak, the Time of the moneth or day hee knew not: also hee told them, that if they heard it not befoze it had done speaking, all their labour should be lost : they being satisfied, licensed the Spirit for to depart.

Then went these two learned Fryers home againe, and prepared the Simples ready, and made the fume, and with continuall watching attended when this Massen head would speake : thus watched they for three weekes without any rest, so that they were so weary

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and sleepe, that they could not any longer refraine from rest: then called Fryer Bacon his man Miles, and told him, that it was not vnknown to him what paines Fryer Bungy and himselfe had taken for thre weekes space, onely to make, and to heare the Wasen-head speake, which if they did not, then had they lost all their labour, and all England had a great losse thereby: therefore hee intreated Miles that he would watch whilst that they sleepe, and call them if the Head speake. Feare not, good Master (said Mailes) I will not sleepe, but harken and attend vpon the head, and if it doe chance to speake, I will call you: therefore I pray take you both your rests and let mee alone for watching this head. After Fryer Bacon had giuen him a great charge: The second time, Fryer Bungy and he went to sleepe, and Miles, alone to watch the Wasen head: Miles, to keepe him from sleeeping, got a Taboz and Pipe, and being merry disposed, sung this Song to a Northren tune.

of Cam'st thou not from New-Castle.

To couple is a custome,
all things thereto agree:
Why should not I then loue?
since loue to all is free

But Ile haue one that's pretty,
her cheekes of scarlet die?
For to breed my delight,
when that I ligge herby.

Though vertue be a Dowry,
yet Ile chuse money store:
If my Loue proue vntrue,
with that I can get more.

The faire is oft vnconstant,
the blacke is often proud.

of Fryer Bacon.

He chuse a louely browne,
come fidler scrape thy crowd,

Come fidler scrape thy crowd,
for *Peggie* the browne is she,
Must be my Bride, God guide
that *Peggie* and I agree.

With his owne Musicke, and such Songs as these
spent he his time, kept from sleeping, at last after some
noyse the Head spake these two words, Time is. Miles
hearing it to speake no moze, thought his Master would
be angry if he waked him for that, and therefore he let
them both sleepe, and began to mocke the Head in this
manner: Thou Wazzen-faced Head, hath my Master
tooke all this paines about thee, and now dost thou re-
quite him with two words, Time is: had hee watched
with a Lawyer so long as he hath watched with thee, he
would haue giuen him moze, and better words then thou
hast yet, if thou canst speake no wiser, they shal sleepe till
domes day for me: Time is: I know Time is, and that
you shall heare good man Wazzen face.

To the tune of Daintie come thou to me.

Time is for some to plant,
Time is for some to sowe;
Time is for some to graft
The horne as some doe know.

Time is for some to eate,
Time is for some to sleepe,
Time is for some to laugh,
Time is for some to weepe.

Time is for some to sing,
Time is for some to pray,

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Time is for some to creepe,
That haue drunke all the day.

Time is to cart a Bawd,
Time is to whip a Whore,
Time is to hang a Theefe,
And time is for much more.

Doe you tell vs Coppernose, when Time is, I hope
we Schollers know our Times, when to dzinke dzunke,
when to kisse our Hostis, when to goe on her scoze, and
when to pay it, that time comes seldome. After halfe an
houre had passed, the Head did speake againe, two words,
which were these: Time was. Miles respected these words
as little as he did the former, and would not wake them,
but still coffed at the Blasen head, that it had learned no
better words, and hae such a Tutoz as his Master: and
in scozne of it sung this Song.

To the tune of a rich Merchant man.

Time was when thou a Kettle
wert fill'd with better matter:
But Fryer Bacon did thee spoyle,
when he thy sides did batter.

Time was when conscience dwelled
with men of occupation:
Time was when Lawyers did not thriue,
so well by mens vexation.

Time was when Kings and Beggars
of one poore stuffe had being:
Time was when office kept no Knaues:
that time it was worth seeing.

Time was a bowle of water,
did giue the face reflection,

Time

of Fryer Bacon.

Time was when women knew no paint;
which now they call Complexion.

Time was: I know that Brazen-face, without your telling, I know Time was, and I know what things there was when Time was, and if you speake no wiser, no Matter shall be waked for mee. Thus Miles talked and sung till another halfe houre was gone, then the Brazen-head spake againe these words; Time is past: and there with fell downe, and presently followed a terrible noyse, with strange flashes of fire, so that Miles was halfe dead with feare: At this noyse the two Fryers awaked, and wondred to see the whole roome so full of smoake, but that beeing vanished they might perceiue the Brazen-head broken and lying on the ground: at this sight they griened, and called Miles to know how this came. Miles halfe dead with feare, said that it fell downe of it selfe, and that with the noyse and fire that followed hee was almost frighted out of his wits: Fryer Bacon asked him if hee did not speake? yes (quoth Miles) it spake, but no purpose, He haue a Parret speake better in that time that you haue beene teaching this Brazen head. Out on thee villaine (said Fryer Bacon) thou hast vndone vs both, hast thou but called vs when it did speake, all England had bin walled round about with Brevete, to its glozy and our eternall sames: What were the words it spake? very few (said Miles) and those were none of the wisest that I haue heard neither: first he said Time is. Hadst thou call'd vs then (said Fryer Bacon) wee had beene made for ever: then (said Miles) halfe an houre after it spake againe and said, Time was. And wouldst thou not call vs then (said Bungy?) Alas (said Miles) I thought he would haue told me some long Tale, and then I purposed to haue called you: then halfe an houre after he cried Time is past, and made such a noyse, that hee hath waked you himselve mee thinks. At this Fryer Bacon was in such a rage, that hee would

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haue beaten his man, but he was restrained by Bungey : but neuerthelesse for his punishment, he with his Art struck him dumbe for one whole moeths space. Thus that great worke of these learned Fryers was ouerthrowne (to their great griefes) by this simple fellow.

How Fryer Bacon by his Art tooke a Towne, when the King had lyen before it three months, without doing to it any hurt.

In those times when Fryer Bacon did all his strange trickes, the Kings of England had a great part of France, which they held a long time, till ciuill warres at home in this Land made them to lose it : it did chance that the King of England (for some cause best knowne to himselfe) went into France with a great Armie, where after many victories, he did besiege a strong Towne, and lay before it full thre moneths, without doing to the Towne any great damage, but rather received the hurt himselfe. This did so bere the King, that he sought to take it in any way, either by policy or strength: To this intent he made Proclamation, that whosoever could deliuer this Towne into his hand, he should haue for his paines ten thousand Crownes truly paid. This was proclaimed, but there was none found that would undertake it: At length the newes did come into England of this great reward that was promised. Fryer Bacon hearing of it, went into France, and being admitted to the Kings presence, he thus spake vnto him: Your Maiestie I am sure, hath not quite forgot your poore subiect Bacon, the loue that you shewed to mee being last in your presence, hath drawne mee for to leaue my Countrey, and my Studies, to doe your Maiestie service : I beseech your Grace, to command mee so farre as my poore Art or life may doe you pleasure. The King thanked him for his loue, but told him, that he

Of Fryer Bacon.

Hee had now moze need of Armes then Art, and wanted
braue Souldiers moze then learned Schollers. Fryer
Bacon answered, Your Grace saith well; but let mee
(vnder correction) tell you, that Art oftentimes doth
those things that are impossible to Armes, which I will
make good in some few examples. I will speake one-
ly of things perfozmed by Art and Nature, wherein
shall be nothing Magicall: and first by the figuration of
Art, there may be made Instruments of Nauigation
without men to rowe in them, as great Shippes to brooke
the Sea, onely with one man to steere them. and they
shall sayle farre moze swiftly then if they were full of
men: Also Chariots that shall moue with an vnspake-
able force, without any liuing creature to stirre them.
Likewise, an Instrument may be made to flye withall, if
one sit in the midst of the Instrument, & doe turne an En-
gine, by which the wings being Artificielly composed,
may beat ayre after the manner of a flying Bird. By an
Instrument of thre fingers high, and thre fingers broad,
a man may rid himselfe and others from all Impzison-
ment: yea, such an Instrument may easily be made,
whereby a man may violently draw vnto him a thousand
men, will they, nill they, or any other thing. By Art also
an Instrument may be made, where with men may
walke in the bottome of the Sea or Riuers without bodi-
ly danger: this Alexander the Great vsed (as the Ethnick
phylosopher reporteth) to the end he might behold the se-
crets of the Seas. But Physicall Figurations are farre
moze strange: for by that may be framed Perspects and
Looking-glasses, that one thing shall appeare to be many,
as one man shall appeare to be a whole Army, and one
Sunne or Moone shall seeme diuers. Also perspects may
be so framed, that things farre off shall seeme most nigh
vnto vs: With one of these did Iulius Caesar from the
Sea coasts in France marke and obserue the situation of
the Castles in England. Bodies may also be so framed,
that the greatest things shall appeare to be the least, the
highest

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highest to lowest, the most secret to bee the most manifest; and in such like sort the contrary. Thus did Socrates perceiue, that the Dragon which did destroy the Citie and Countrey adioyning, with his noysome bzeath, and contagious influence, did lurke in the denues betweend the Fontaines: and thus may all things that are done in Citiees or Armies be discovered by the enemies. Againe, in such wise may bodies bee framed that venemous and infectious influences may be brought whether a man will: In this did Aristotle instruct Alexander; through which instruction the poyson of a Basiliske, being lift vp vpon the wall of a Citie, the poyson was conuayd into the Citie, to the destruction thereof: Also Perspectes may be made to deceiue the sight, as to make a man beleue that hee seeth great store of riches, when that there is not any. But it appertaineth to a higher polder of figuration, that beames should be brought and assembled by diuers reflexions and reflexions in any distance that we will, to burne any thing that is opposite vnto it, as it is witnessed by those Perspectes or Glasses that burne before and behinde: But the greatest and chiefest of all figurations and things figured, is to describe the heauenly bodies, according to their length and breadth in a corporall figure, wherein they may corporally moue with a daily motion. These things are worth a kingdom to a wise man. These may suffice, my royall Lord, to shew what Art can doe: and these, with many things more as strange, I am able by Art to performe. When take no thought for winning this Towne; for by my Art you shall (ere many dayes be past) haue your desire.

The King all this while heard him with admiration; but hearing him now, that hee would undertake to win the Towne, hee burst out in these speeches: Most learned Bacon, doe but what thou hast said, and I will giue thee what thou most desirest, either wealth, of honour, choose which thou wilt, and I will be as ready to performe,

of Fryer Bacon.

performe, as I haue bene to promise.

Your Maesties loue is all that I seeke (saide the Fryer) let mee haue that, & I haue honour enough, for wealth, I haue content, the wise should seeke nomoze: but to the purpose. Let your Dioniers raise vp a mount so high (or rather higher) then the wall, and then shall you see some probability of that which I haue promised.

This Mount in two dayes was raised: then Fryer Bacon went with the King to the Top of it, and did with a perspect shew to him the Towne, as plainly as if hee had beene in it: at this the King did wonder, but Fryer Bacon told him, that he should wonder moze, ere next day none: against which Time, he desired him to haue his whole Army in readinesse, for to scale the wall vpon a signall giuen by him, from the Mount. This the King promised to doe, and so returned to his Tent full of Joy, that he should gaine this strong Towne. In the morning Fryer Bacon went vp to the Mount and set his Glasses, and other Instruments vp: in the meane time the King ordered his Army, and stood in a readinesse for to giue the assault: when the signall was giuen, which was the waving of a Flagge: Ere nine of the clocke Fryer Bacon had burnt the State-house of the Towne, with other houses onely by his Mathematicall Glasses, which made the whole Towne in an vppore, for none did know how it came: whilst that they were quenching of the same Fryer Bacon did waue his Flagge: vpon which signall giuen, the King set vpon the Towne, and toke it with little or no resistance. Thus through the Art of this learned man the King got this strong Towne, which hee could not doe with all his men without Fryer Bacons helpe.

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How Fryer *Bacon* ouer-came the German Coniurer *Vandermaſt*, and made a Spirit of his owne carry him into Germany.

THE King of England after hee had taken in the Towne, ſhewed great mercy to the Inhabitants, giuing ſome of them their liues freely, and others hee ſet at libertie for their Gold: the Towne hee kept as his owne, and ſwoze the chiefe Citizens to be his true Subjects. Preſently after the King of France ſent an Ambaſſadour to the King of England, for to intreat a peace betweene them. This Ambaſſadour being come to the King, he feaſted him) as it is the manner of Princes to doe) and with the beſt ſports as he had then, welcomed him. The Ambaſſadour ſeeing the King of England ſo free in his Loue, deſired likewise to giue him ſome taſte of his good liking, and to that intent ſent for one of his fellowes (being a Germane, and named *Vandermaſt*) a famous coniurer, who being come, hee told the King, that ſince his Grace had beene ſo bountifull in his loue to him, he would ſhew him (by a ſervant of his) ſuch wonderfull things that his Grace had neuer ſeene the like befoze. The King demaunded of him, of what nature thoſe things were that hee would doe: The Ambaſſadour answered that they were things done by the Art of Magicke. The King hearing of this, ſent ſtraight for Fryer *Bacon*, who preſently came, and brought Fryer Bungey with him.

When the Banquet was done, *Vandermaſt* did aſke the King, if he deſired to ſee any Spirit of any man deceased: and if that he did, hee would raiſe him in ſuch manner and faſhion as he was in when that hee liued. The King told him, that aboue all men hee deſired to ſee *Pompey the Great*, who could abide no equall. *Vandermaſt* by his Art raiſed him, armed in ſuch manner as hee was

of Fryer Bacon.

was when hee was slaine at the battell of Pharfalia; at this they were all highly contented. Fryer Bacon presently raised the ghost of Iulias Cæsar, who could abide no Superiour, and had slaine this Pompey at the Battell of Pharfalia: At the sight of him they were all amazed, but the King who sent for Bacon and Vandermaest said that there was some man of Art in that presence, whom he desired to see. Fryer Bacon then shewed himselfe, saying; It was I Vandermaest, that raised Cæsar, partly to giue content to this Royall presence, but chiefly for to conquer thy Pompey, as he did once before, at that great Battell of Pharfalia, which he now againe shall doe. Then presently began a fight being Cæsar and Pompey, which continued a good space, to the content of all, except Vandermaest. At last Pompey was overcome and slaine by Cæsar: then vanished they both away.

My Lord Ambassadour (said the King) me thinks that my Eng^lishman hath put downe your German; hath he not better cunning then this? Yes, answered Vandermaest, your Grace shall see me put downe your Eng^lishman, ere that you goe from hence: and therefore Fryer prepare thy selfe with thy best of Art to withstand me. Alas, said Fryer Bacon, it is a little thing will serue to resist thee in this kind. I haue here one that is my inferior (shewing him Fryer Bungey) try thy Art with him: and if thou doe put him to the worst, then will I deale with thee, and not till then.

Fryer Bungey then began to shew his Art: and after some turning and looking in his booke, he brought by among them the Hysperian Tree, which did beare golden Apples: these Apples were kept by a waking Dragon, that lay vnder the Tree: He hauing done this, bid Vandermaest finde one that durst gather the fruit. When Vandermaest did raise the ghost of Hercules in his habit that he wore when that he was liuing, and with his Club on his shoulder: Here is one, said Vandermaest, that

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shall gather fruit from this Tree: this is Hercules, that in his life time gathered of this Fruit, and made the Dragon couch: and now againe shall hee gather it in spite of all opposition. As Hercules was going to plucke the fruit, Fryer Bacon held up his wand, at which Hercules stayed and seemed fearefull. Vandermaest bid him soz to gather of the fruit, or else he would sozment him. Hercules was moze fearefull, and said, I cannot, noz I dare not: soz great Bacon stands, whose charmes are farre moze powerfull then thine, I must obey him Vandermaest. Hereat Vandermaest curst Hercules, and threathned him: But Fryer Bacon laughed, and bid him not to chafe himselfe ere that his iourney was ended: soz seeing (said he) that Hercules will doe nothing at your command. I will haue him doe you some seruice at mine: with that he bid Hercules carry him home into Germany. The Deuill obeyed him, and tooke Vandermaest on his backe, and went away with him in all their sights. Hold Fryer, cried the Ambassadour. I will not lose Vandermaest soz halfe my Land. Content your selfe my Lord, answered Fryer Bacon. I haue but sent him home to see his wife, and ere long he may returne. The King of England thanked Fryer Bacon, and forced some gifts on him soz his seruice that hee had done soz him: soz Fryer Bacon did so little respect money, that he neuer would take any of the King.

How Fryer Bacon through his wisdome saued the endangered liues of thre e Brethren.

THE Peace being concluded betwene the King of England and the King of France: the King of England came againe into his Countrey of England, where he was receined very ioyfully of all his Subjects: But in his absence had happened a disoord betwene thre Brethren, the like hath not bene often heard. This it was:

of Fryer Bacon.

A rich Gentleman of England dyed, and left behinde him three Sonnes. Now for some reason (which was best knowne to himselfe) he appointed none of them by name to be his heire, but spake to them all after this manner: You are all my Sonnes, and I loue you all as a Father should doe, all alike, not one better then the other: and cause I would alwayes doe rightly so nere as I can, I leaue all my Lands and goods to him that loues me best: These were his last words that he spake, concerning any worldly affaires.

After he was dead and buried, there arose a great controuersie betwix them, who should in herit their Fathers Goods and Lands every one pleading for himselfe, how that he loued his Father best. All the cunning Lawyers of the Kingdome could say nothing to the purpose, concerning this case, so that they were inforced to begge of the King a grant for a combat: for they would not share the Lands and Goods amongst them, but every one desired all or else nothing. The King seeing no other way to end this controuersie, granted a combat: the two eldest being to fight first, and the conquerour to fight with the yongest, and the sarruiner of them was to haue the Land.

The day being come that was set for those combatants, they all came in armed for the fight. Fryer Bacon being there present, and seeing such three lustie young men like to perish, and that by their owne flesh and blood, grieved very much, and went to the King, desiring his Maestie that he would stay the fight, and he would finde a meanes without any bloodshed to end the matter: the King was very glad hereof, and caused the Combatants to be brought befoze him, to whom he said: Gentlemen, to saue the blood of you all, I haue found a way, and yet the controuersie shall be ended that is now amongst you: Are you contented to stand to his Iudgement that I shall appoint? They all answered,

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that they were. Then were they bid to returne three dayes after. In that time Fryer Bacon had caused the Body of their deceased Father to be taken out of the ground, and brought to the Court: the Body hee did cause to be bound to a Stake, naked from the middle upwards and likewise prepared three Bowes and Shafts for the three Brethren: all these kept hee secretly.

The third day being come, came these three Brethren, to whom Fryer Bacon in the presence of the King gave the three Bowes and Shafts, saying, Be not offended at what I have done; there is no other way but this to Judge your cause: Here heere is the body of your dead Father, shoot at him, for he that commeth nearest to his heart, shall have all the Lands and Goods.

The two eldest prepared themselves, and shot at him, and stucke their Arrowes in his Breast. Then bid they the yongest to shoot: but he refused it, saying, I will rather lose all, then wound that body that I so loved living: Had you ever had but halfe that love (in you) to him that I have, you would rather have had your owne bodies mangled, then to suffer his livelesse Corps thus to be used; nay, you doe not onely suffer it, but you are the actors of this act of shame: and speaking this, hee wept.

Fryer Bacon seeing this, did give the Judgement on his side, for he loved his Father best, and therefore had all his Lands and Goods: the other two Brothers went away with shame for what they had done. This deed of Fryer Bacons was highly commended of all men: for he did not onely give true Judgement, but also saved much blood that would have beene shed, had they beene suffered to have fought.

How

of Fryer Bacon.

How Fryer *Bacon* serued the Theeues that robbed him, and of the sport that his man *Miles* had with them.

It was reported about the Countrey, how that the King had giuen Fryer Bacon great store of Treasure. The report of this wealth made three Theeues plot to rob Fryer Bacons house, which they put in practise one Evening in this fashion. They knockt at the doore, and were let in by Miles: so sooner were they in, but they tooke hold of him, and led him into the house, and finding Fryer Bacon there, they told him that they came for some money, which they must and would haue ere they departed from thence. He told them, that he was but ill storied with money at that time, and therefore desired them to forbeare him till some other time. They answered him againe, that they knew that he had enough, and therefore it was but folly to delay them, but straight let them haue it by faire meanes, or else they would vse that extremitie to him that he would be loth to suffer. He seeing them so resolute, told them that they should haue all that he had, and gaue to them one hundred pounds a man. Herewith they seemed content, & would haue gone their wayes. Nay, said Fryer Bacon, I pray Gentlemen at my request tarry a little, and heare some of my mans Musicke: you are byzed reasonable well already, I hope in courtesie you will not deny mee so small a request That will wee not, (said they all.)

Miles thought now to haue some sport with them, which he had, and therefore plaid lustily on his Taboz and Pipe: so some as they heard him play (against their wils) they fell a dauncing and that after such a laborious manner, that they quickly wearied themselves (for they had all that while the bagges of money in their hands.) Yet
had

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had Fryer Bacon not reuenge enough of them, but bid his man Miles leade them some larger measure as hee thought fitting, which Miles did. Miles straight ledde them out of the house into the fields, they followed him, dauncing after a wilde Anticke manner: Then led hee them ouer a broad dike full of water, and they followed him still, but not so good a way as he went (for he went ouer the Bridge, but they by reason of their dauncing, could not keepe the Bridge, but fell off, and dauncing thzough the water) then led hee them thzough away where a horse might very well haue bene vp to the belly: they followed him, and were so durtie, as though they had swallowed in the myze like Swine: Sometime gaue hee them rest onely to laugh at them: then were they so sleepe when hee did not play, that they fell to the ground. Then on the sudden would hee play againe, and make them start vp and follow him. Thus kept hee them the better part of the night. At last hee in pittie left playing, and let them rest. They being asleepe on the bare ground hee tooke their money from them, and gaue them this Song for their farewell, To the tune of, Oh doe me no harme good man.

You roaring Boyes, and sturdy Theeues,
you Pimpes, and Aples-squires:
Lament the case of these poore knaues,
and warme them by your fires.

They snorting lye like Hogs in stie,
but hardly are so warme:
If all that cheat, such hap should meet,
to true men 'twere no harme.

They money had, which made them glad,
their ioy did not indure:
Were all Theeues seru'd as these haue bene,
I thinke there would be fewer.

When

of Fryer Bacon.

When that they awake, their hearts will ake,
to thinke vpon their losse;
And though the gallows they escape,
they goe by weeping crosse.

Yours Trulls expect your comming home
with full and heauy purse:
When that they see tis nothing so,
oh how they'le rayle and curse.

For he that loues to keepe a whore,
must haue a giuing hand.
Which makes a many knaues be choakt,
for bidding true men stand.

They were scarce any thing the better for this Song,
for they slept all the while: so Miles left them at their
rest; but they had small cause to sleepe so soundly as they
did, for they were moze wette then ere was Scold with
cucking. Miles gaue his Pastor his money againe, & told
the story of their merry pilgrimage: he laughed at it, and
wist all men had the like power to serue all such knaues
in the like kind. The theeues waking in the morning and
missing their money, and seeing themselves in that plight,
thought that they had beene serued so by some diuine
power, for robbing a Church-man, and therefore they
swoze one to the other, neuer to meddle with any Church
man againe.

How *Vandermaft*, for the disgrace that he had receiued by
Fryer Bacon sent a Souldier to kill him; and how *Fryer
Bacon* escaped killing, and turned the Souldier from an
Atheist to be a good Christian.

Fryer Bacon sitting one day in his Study, looked o-
uer all the dangers that were to happen to him that
moneth,

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moneth, there found he, that in the second weeke of the moneth betwéene Sunne rising and setting, there was a great danger to fall on him, which would without great care of pzeuention take away his life. This danger which he did foresée, was caused by the Germane Coniurer Vādermaſt, ſoꝛ he vowed a reuenge ſoꝛ the diſgrace that he had receiued. To execute the ſame, hee hyꝛed a Walloon ſouldier, and gaue him one thouſand crownes to do the ſame, fiſty beſoꝛehand, and fiſty when hee had killed him.

Fryer Bacon, to ſaue himſelfe from this danger that was like to happen to him would alwayes when that he read, hold a ball of Waſſe in his hand, and vnder that ball would he ſet a baſon of Waſſe, that if hee did chance to ſleepe in his reading, the fall of the Ball out of his hand into the Baſon, might wake him. Being one day in his Study in this manner, and aſleepe the Walloon ſouldier was got in to him, and had drawne his ſwoꝛd to kill him: but as hee was ready ſoꝛ to ſtrike, doꝛne fell the Ball out of Fryer Bacons hand, and waked him. Hee ſéeing the ſouldier ſtand there with a ſwoꝛd drawne. asked him what hee was: and wherefoꝛe hee came there in that manner? The ſouldier boldly answered him thus: I am a Walloon, and a ſouldier, and moꝛe then this, a villaine: I am come hither, becauſe I was ſent; I was ſent, becauſe I was hyꝛed: I was hyꝛed, becauſe I durſt do it; the thing I ſhould doe, is not done: the thing to be done, is to kill thee: thus haue you heard what I am and why I came. Fryer Bacon wondered at this mans reſolution; then asked hee of him, who ſet him on woꝛke to bee a murderer: Hee boldly told him, Vandermaſt the Germane Coniurer: Fryer Bacon then asked him what Religion he was of: He answered, Of that which many doe poſſeſſe, the chiefe principles of which were theſe: to goe to an Ale-houſe, and to a Church with one deuotion, to abſteine from euill ſoꝛ want of action, and to doe good againſt

of Fryer Bacon.

against their wills. It is a good profession for a devil (said Fryer Bacon.) Doeſt thou beleue hell? I beleue no ſuch thing, answered the Souldier. Then will I ſhew thee the contrary, ſaid the Fryer: and preſently rayſed the ghoſt of Iulian the Apoſtata, who came by with his body burning, and ſo full of wounds, that it almoſt did affright the Souldiour out of his wits. Then Bacon did command this ſpirit to ſpeake, and to ſhew what hee was, and wherefore hee was thus tormented: Then ſpake hee to it in this manner: I ſometimes was a Romaine Emperour; ſome count greatneſſe a happineſſe: I had a happineſſe beyond my Empire, had I kept that, I had bene a happy man: would I had loſt my Empire when I loſt that, I was a Chriſtian, that was my happineſſe; but my ſelfe lone and pride made me to fall from it; for which I now am puniſhed with neuer ceaſing torments, which I muſt ſtill endure: the like which I enjoy is now prepared for vnbeleuuing wretches like my ſelfe, ſo baniſhed he away.

All this while the Souldier ſtood quaking, and ſweat as he had felt the torments himſelfe; and falling downe on his knees deſired Fryer Bacon to inſtruct him in a better courſe of life, then he had yet gone in. Fryer Bacon told him, that he ſhould not want his hepe in any thing, which he perſomed, inſtructing him better: then gaue he him money, and ſent him to the warres of the holy land, where he was ſlaine.

How Fryer Bacon deceiued an old Vſurer.

Not farre from Fryer Bacon, dwelt an olde man that had great ſtoze of money which hee let out to uſe, and would neuer doe any good with it to the poore, though Fryer Bacon had often put him in minde of it and wiſhed him to do ſome good whileſt he lived. Fryer Bacon ſetting this, by his Art made an Iron pot, which ſeemed full of gold, this being done, hee went to this rich

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Usurer, and told him, that he had some gold which he had gathered in his time that he had lived; but it being much in quantity, hee feared that if it were knowne, it would be taken from him, because it was unfitting a man of his coat should haue so much: Now he desired him that hee would let him haue some hundred pounds, which was not the fure part of his gold, and he should keepe it for him. The Usurer was glad to heare of this, and told him that he should haue it, & that he would keepe his hold as safe as he himselfe would: Fryer Bacon was glad to heare of this and presently fetcht the pot: at the sight of which the Usurer laughed, and thought to himselfe, how all that gold was his owne, for hee had a determination to gull the Fryer, but he gulled himselfe. See here is the gold (said Fryer Bacon) now let me haue of you one hundred pounds, and keepe you this gold till I pay it backe again. Very willingly (said the Usurer) and told him one hundred pounds out, which Fryer Bacon toke, and deliuered him the note, & so went his way. This money did Fryer Bacon giue to diuers poore schollers, and other people and bid them pray for old Good-gatherers soules health (so was this Usurer call'd) which these poore people did, and would giue him thanks & prayers when they met him, which he did wonder at; for he neuer deserved the prayers of any man. At last this old Good-gatherer went to looke on this pot of gold, but in stead of gold he found nothing but earth at which sight he would haue died, had not his other gold hindered him, which hee was to leaue behind him: so gathering vp his spirits, hee went to Fryer Bacon, and told him he was abused & cheated; for which he would haue the law of him, vnlesse he made him restitution. Fryer Bacon told him, that he had not cheated him, but bin his faithfull steward to the poore, which he could not chuse but know, either by their prayers, or their thanks: & as for the law he feared it not, but bid him doe his word. The old man seeing Fryer Bacons resolution, went his way, and said, that hereafter he would be his owne steward.

How

of Fryer Bacon.

How *Miles Fryer Bacon*s man, did coniure for meat, and got meat for himselfe and his Hoast.

Miles chanced one day vpon some businesse, to goe some fixe miles from home, and being loth to part with some company that he had, he was belated, & could get but halfe way home that night: to saue his purse hee went to ones house that was his Masters acquaintance: but when he came, the good man of the house was not at home, and the woman would not let him haue lodging. Miles seeing such cold entertainement wished that he had not troubled her, but being now there, he was loth to goe any further & therefore with good words he perswaded her for to giue him lodging that night. She told him that she would willingly do it, if her husband were at home, but he being now out of towne, it would bee to her discredit to lodge any man. You needs not mistrust me, (said Miles) for I haue no thought to attempt your chastitie: locke me in any place where there is a bed, and I will not trouble you till to morrow that I rise. She thinking her husband would be angry if she should deny any of his friends so small a request, consented that he should lye there, if that he would be locked vp: Miles was contented and presently went to bed, and she locked him in to the chamber where he lay.

Long had not he bene a bed, but he heard the doore open; with that he rose and peeped through a linke of the partition, and saw an old man come in: this man set downe his Basket that he had on his arme, and gaue the woman of the house three or foure sweet kisses, which made Miles his mouth runne with water to see it: When did hee vndoe his Basket, and pulled out of it a fat Capon ready roasted, and Bread, with a bottle of good olde Sacke: this gaue hee vnto her, saying: Sweetheart, hearing thy Husband was out of towne, I thought good to visite thee, I am not come empty handed

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handed, but haue brought some thing to bee merrie
withall : lay the cloth swæte Hony , and let vs first to
Banquet, and then to bed. She kindly thanked him, and
presently did as he bad her : They were not scarce set
at the Table , but her husband returning backe, knockt
at the doze The woman hearing this, was amazed , and
knew not what to doe with her old Louer : but looking
on her apzon-strings, she stratte found (as women vse to
doe) a trickes to put her selfe free from this feare ; for shee
put her Louer vnder the bed, the Capon & Bzead she put
vnder a Tub , the bottle of Wine shee put behinde the
Chest, & then shee did open the doze, & with a dissembling
kisse welcomed her husband home, asking him the reason
why that he returned so quickly. He told her , that hee
had forgot the money that hee should haue carried with
him, but on the morrow betimes he would be gone. Miles
saw and heard all this; and hauing a desire to taste of the
Capon & the Wine, called to the Goodman. He asked his
wife who that was? She told him, :an acquaintance of
his, that intreated lodging there that night. He bid her
open the doze, which shee did, and let Miles out. Hee see-
ing Miles there, bid him welcome, and bade his wife to
set them some meate on the table: shee told him, that there
was not any ready, but prayed him to kepe his stomacke
till to morrow, and then shee would prouide them a good
breakfast. Since it is so Miles (said the goodman) wee
must rest contented, and sleepe out our hunger. Nay say
said Miles, if that you can eate, I can find you good meat;
I am a Scholler and haue some Art. I would faine see it
(said the goodman) You shall, quoth Miles, and that pre-
sently. With that Miles pulled forth a booke out of his bo-
some, and began his Coniuration in this fashion:

From the fearefull Lake below,
From whence Spirits come and goe;
Straightway come one and attend
Fryer *Bacon*s man, and friend.

Comes

of Fryer Bacon.

Comes there none yet, quoth Miles: then I must vse
some other Charme.

Now the Owle is flowne abroad,
For I heare the croaking Toade,
And the Bat that shuns the day,
Through the darke doth make her way.
Now the ghosts of men doe rise,
And with fearefull hidious cryes,
Seekes reuengement (from the good)
On their heads that spilt their blood,
Come some Spirit, quicke I say,
Night's the Devils Holy-day:
Where ere you be, in dennes, or lake,
In the Iuy, Ewe, or Brake:
Quickly come and me attend,
That am *Bacons* man and friend.
But I will haue you take no shape
Of a Beare, a Horse, or Ape:
Nor will I haue you terrible,
And therefore come inuisible.

Now he is come, (quoth Miles, and therefore tell me
what meat you will haue mine Hoast: Any thing Miles,
(said the Goodeman) what thou wilt. Why then (sayd
Miles) what say you to a Capon? I loue it aboue all
meat (said the Goodman.) Why then a Capon you shall
haue, and that a good one too. Bemo my spirit that I
haue raised to doe mee seruice, I charge thee, seeke and
search about the earth, and bring me hither straight the
best of Capons ready roasted. When stood hee still a lit-
tle, as though hee had attended the comming of his spi-
rit, and on the sudden said: It is well done my Bemo,
hee hath brought me (mine Hoast) a fat Capon from the
King of Tripolis owne Table, and bread with it. I but
where is it Miles (said the Host) I see neither Spirit
nor Capon. Looke vnder the Tub (quoth Miles) and
there

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there you shall finde it. He presently did, and brought (to his wifes grieve) the Capon and Bread out. Stay (quoth Miles) we doe yet want some drinke that is comfortable and good; I thinke (mine Hoast) a bottle of Galligo Sacke were not amisse, I will haue it: Bemo, haste thee to Galligo, and fetch me from the Gouernours, a Bottle of his best Sacke. The poore woman thought that hee would haue betrayed her and her loue, and therefore wished that he had beene hanged, when that hee came first into her house. Hee hauing stood a little while, as before, saide: Well done, Bemo, looke behinde the great Chest (mine Hoast: Hee did so, and brought out the Bottle of Sacke. Now (quoth hee) Miles sit downe, and welcome to thine owne Cheere: You may see Wife (quoth hee) what a man of Art can doe, get a fatte Capon, and a Bottle of good Wine in a quarter of an houre, and for nothing, which is best of all: Come (good wife) sit downe, and bee merry: for all this is paid for, I thanke Miles.

Shee sate, but could not eate a bit for anger, but wished that euery bit they did eate might choake them: Her old Louer too that lay vnder the bed all this while, was ready to bepisse himselfe for feare, for hee still looked when that Miles would discover him. When they had eaten and drunke well, the good man desired Miles that hee would let him see the Spirit that fetched them this good cheere: Miles seemed unwilling, telling him that it was against the Lawes of Art, to let an illiterate man see a Spirit, but yet for once hee would let him see it: and told him withall, that hee must open the doore, and soundly beat the Spirit: or else hee should bee troubled hereafter with it: and because hee should not feare it, hee would put it into the shape of some one of his neighbours. The Good man told him, that hee neede not to doubt his valour, hee would beat him soundly, and to that purpose hee

of Fryer Bacon.

he tooke a good Cudgell in his hand, and did stand ready for him. Miles then went to the bed side, vnder which the old man lay, and began to conture him with these wordes,

Bemo quickly come, appeare,
Like an old man that dwels neere :
Quickly rise, and in his shape,
From this house make thy escape;
Quickly rise, or else I sweare.
He put thee in a worser feare.

The old man seeing no remedy, but that hee must needes come forth, put a good face on it, and rose from vnder the bed: Behold my Spirit (quoth Miles) that brought me all that you haue had; Now bee as good as your word and swaddle him soundly. I protest (said the Goodman) your Deuill is as like Goodman Stumpe the Tooth-drawer, as a Pomeewater is like an Apple: Is it possible that your Spirits can take other mens shapes? He teach this to keepe his owne shape; with that hee let the old man soundly, so that Miles was faine to take him off, and put the old man out of doore so after some laughing, to bed they all went: but the woman could not sleepe for griefe, that her old Louer had had such bad vsage for her sake.

How Fryer Bacon did helpe a young man to his Sweet-heart, which Fryer Bungye would haue married to another; and of the mirth that was at the wedding.

A Dorsetshire Gentleman had long time loued a faire Mayde, called Millisant; this loue of his was as kindly receiued of her, as it was freely giuen of him,

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him, so that there wanted nothing to the finishing of their ioyes, but the consent of her Father, who would not grant that he should see his wife (though formerly he had bene a meanes to further the match) by reason there was a Knight that was a sutor to her, and did desire that hee might haue her to his wife: But this Knight could neuer get from her the least Token of good will : so sorely was her loue fired vpon the Gentleman. This Knight seeing himselfe thus despised, went to Fryer Bungye, and told him his mind, and did promise him a good piece of money if he could get her for him, either by his Art, or Counsell.

Bungye (being conuentous) told him, that there was no better way in his mind, then to get her with her Father to goe take the ayze in a Coach : and if hee could doe so, hee would by his Art so direct the hoxses, that they should come to an old Chappell, where hee would attend, and there they might secretly be married. The Knight rewarded him for his counsell, and told him, that if it toke effect, hee would be more bountifull vnto him : And presently went to her Father, and told him of this. Hee liked well of it, and forced the poore Maide to ride with them. So soone as they were in the Coach, the Hoxses ranne presently to the Chappell, where they found Fryer Bungye attending for them: At the sight of the Church and the Priest, the poore Maide knew that she was betraide, so that for grieve shee fell in a swoound; to see which her Father and the Knight, were very much grieved, and vsed their best skill for her recovery.

In this time, her best Beloued, the Gentleman, did come to her Fathers to visit her, but finding her not there; and hearing that shee was gone with her Father, and the Knight, he mistrusted some foule play; and
in

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in all hast went to Fryer Bacon, and desired of him some help to reconer his Loue againe, whom he feared was utterly lost.

Fryer Bacon (knowing him for a vertuous Gentleman) pittyed him; and to giue his griefes some release, shewed him a Glasse, wherein any one might see any thing done (within fifty miles space) that they desired: So soone as he looked in the Glasse, hee saw his Loue Millisant with her Father, and the Knight, ready to be married by Fryer Bungye: At the sight of this hee cryed out that he was vndone, for now should hee lose his life in losing of his Loue. Fryer Bacon bids him take comfort, for he would preuent the marriage: so taking this Gentleman in his armes, hee set himselfe downe in an enchanted Chaire, and suddenly they were carryed through the ayre to the Chappell. Just as they came in, Fryer Bungye was ioyning their hands to marry them: but Fryer Bacon spoyled his speech, for he stricke him dumbe, so that he could not speake a word. Then raised he a myst in the Chappell, so that neither the Father could see his Daughter, nor the Daughter her Father, nor the Knight either of them. Then toke he Millisant by the hand, and led her to the man she most desired: they both wept for ioy, that they so happily once more had met, and kindly thanked Fryer Bacon.

It greatly pleased Fryer Bacon to see the passion of these two Louers, and seeing them both contented, hee married them at the Chappell doore, whilst her Father, the Knight, and Fryer Bungye went groping within, and could not find the way out. Now when he had married them, he bid them get lodging at the next Village, and he would send his man with money: (for the Gentleman was not stored, and hee had a great way to his house) they did as he bad them: That night hee sent his man Miles with money to them, but hee

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kept her Father, the Knight, and Fryer Bungye till the next day at none in the Chappell, ere he released them.

The Gentleman and his new married wife made that night a great Supper for ioy of their marriage, and bid to it most of the Village: They wanted nothing but Musicke, for which they made great moane. This want, Fryer Bacon (though he was absent) supplied: For after Supper there came such a Maske, that the like was neuer seene in that Village: For first, there was heard most sweet still Musicke, then wind Musicke: Then came three Apes, and three Donkeys, each of them carrying a Torch: after them followed five Apes and Donkeyes more, all dressed in Anticke coats: these last five fell a dancing in such an odde manner, that they moued all the beholders to much laughter: so after diuers Antick changes, they did reuerence to the Bridegrome and Bride, and so departed in order as they came in. They all did maruell from whence these should come: but the Bridegrome knew that it was Fryer Bacons Art that gaue them this grace to their Wedding. When all was done; to bed they went, and enjoyed their wishes. The next day he went home to his owne house with his Bride: and for the cost hee had bestowed on them, most part of the Townes-folke brought them on their way.

Miles made one amongst them too; he for his Masters sake was so plyed with Cups, that he in three dayes was scarce sober: for his welcome, at his departure he gaue them this Song: To the tune of, I haue bene a Fiddler, &c.

And did not you heare of a mirth that befell,
the morrow after a Wedding day:
At carrying a Bride at home to dwell,
and away to Twiuer, away, away?

The

of Fryer Bacon.

The Quintin was set, and the garlands were made,

'tis pittie old custome should euer decay :

And woe be to him that was horst on a lade,

for he carried no credit away, away.

We met a Confort of Fiddle-dedees,

we set them a cock-horse, and made them to play;

The winning of Bullen, and Vpsie-frees,

and away to Twiuer, away, away.

There was ne'r a Lad in all the Parish,

that would goe to the Plow that day :

But on his Fore-horse his Wench he carries,

and away to Twiuer, away, away.

The Butler was quicke, and the Ale he did rap,

the Maidens did make the Chamber fulll gay :

The Seruing-men gaue me a Fudding Cap,

and I did caryed it away, away.

The Smith of the Towne his Liquor so tooke,

that he was perswaded the ground look'd blue,

And I dare boldly to sweare on a booke,

such Smiths as he, there are but a few.

A Posset was made, and the women did sip,

and simpering said they could eat no more:

Full many a Maid was laid on the lip:

He say no more, but so giue ore.

They kindly thanked Miles for his Song, and so
sent him home with a Fore at his Tayle. His Master
asked him, Where he had bene so long? He told him,
at the Weddeng. I know it (said Fryer Bacon) that
thou hast bene there, and I know also (thou beast) that
thou hast ben every day drunke. That is the worst that

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you can say by mee, *Waller*, for still poore men must be drunke, if that they take a cup more then ordinarie; but it is not so with the rich. Why how is it with the rich then? I will tell you (*said Miles*) in few words,

Lawyers they are sicke,
And Fryers are ill at ease;
But poore men they are drunke.
And all is one disease.

Tell Sirrah (*said Fryer Bacon*) let mee not heare that you are infected any more with this disease, lest I glue you some sawce to your sweet meat. Thus did *Fryer Bacon* helpe these poore Lovers, who in short time got the love of the old man, and lived in great ioy: *Fryer Bungye* his tongue was againe let loose, and all were friends.

How *Vandermaest* and *Fryer Bungye* met, and how they striued who should excell one another in their Coniurations; and of their deaths.

V *Andermaest* thinking that *Fryer Bacon* had beene dead, came into England, and in Kent met with *Fryer Bungye*: he owning him no good will for *Fryer Bacons* sake, tooke his horse out of the Stable, and in stead of it, left a Spirit like unto it. *Fryer Bungye* in the morning rose, and mounting this Spirit (which he thought had been his Horse) rode on his journey: but he riding therto a water, was left in the midst of it by this Spirit; and being thus wet, hee returned to his Anne. At the Anne house, *Vandermaest* met him, and asked

of Fryer Bacon.

ked him, if that were swimming time of the yere: Bungye told him, If that he had been so well hoysed as he was, when Fryer Bacon sent him into Germany, he might haue escaped that washing. At this Vandermaft bit his lip, and said no more, but went in. Bungye thought that he would be euen with him, which was in this manner, Vandermaft loued a Wenche well, which was in the house, and sought many times to winne her for gold, loue, or promises. Bungye knowing this, did shape a Spirit like this Wenche, which he sent to Vandermaft. Vandermaft appointed the Spirit (thinking it had beene the Wenche) to come to his Chamber that night, and was very ioyful that he should enioy her now at the last: but his ioy turned into sorrow, and his wanton hopes into a bad nights lodging: for Fryer Bungye had by his Art spred such a sheet on his bed, that no sooner was he laid with the Spirit on it, but it was carryed through the ayre, and let fall into a deepe Pond, where Vandermaft had beene drowned, if he had not had the Art of swimming: He got quickly out of the Pond, and shaked himselfe like a rough Water-Spanniell; but being out, he was as much vexed as before, for he could not tell the way home, but was glad to keepe himselfe in heat that night with walking. Next day he comming to his Anne. Fryer Bungye asked him how he did like his Wenche: he said, So well, that he wished him such another. Bungye told him, that his Order did forbid him the vse of any, and therefore he might keepe them for his friends: Thus did they continually vere each other, both in wordes, and ill actions. Vandermaft desiring to doe Fryer Bungye a mischief, did challenge him the field (not to fight at Sword and Dagger, single Rapier, or case of Poinyards, but at worse weapons farre, it was at that diabolicall Art of Magicks) there to shew which of them was most cunning, or had most power over

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ouer the Denill: Bungye accepted of his challenge, and both prouided themselves of things belonging to the Art, and to the field they went.

There they both spred their Circles some hundred foot from one another: and after some other Ceremonies did Vandermaest begin: Hee by his Charmes did raise vp a fiery Dragon, which did runne about Fryer Bungyes Circle, and did scorch him with his heat so that hee was almost ready to melt. Fryer Bungye mented Vandermaest in another Element: for he raised vp the Sea-monster that Perseus killed, when he did rescue the faire Andromeda. This Sea-monster did run about Vandermaest, and such floods of water did he send out of his wide mouth, that Vandermaest was almost drowned. Then did Fryer Bungye raise a Spirit vp like Saint George, who fought with the Dragon, and killed it: Vandermaest (following his example) raised vp Perseus, who fought also with his Sea-monster, and killed it: so were they both released from their danger.

They being not contented with this tryall of their skill, went further in their Contritions, and raised vp two Spirits, each of them one. Bungye charged his Spirit for to assist him with his greatest power hee had, that by it he might be able to ouercome Vandermaest. The Denill told him he would, if that he from his left arme would giue him but thre drops of blood: but if that he did deny him that, then should Vandermaest haue power ouer him to doe what he would: The like told Vandermaests Denill to him: to this demand of the Spirits, they both agreed, thinking for to ouercome each other; but the Denill ouerthrew them both.

They hauing giuen the Denill this blood, as is before spoken of, they both fell againe to their Contritions: First, Bungye did raise Achilles with his Greekes, who marched about Vandermaest, and threated him. Then

Van

of Fryer B A C O N.

Vandermaſt raiſed Hector with his Troians, who defended him from Achilles and the Greekes. Then began there a great battell between the Greekes and Troians, which continued a good ſpace: at laſt Hector was ſlaine, & the Troians fled. Then did follow a great tempeſt, with thundring and lightning, ſo that the two Conjurors wiſhed that they had been away. But wiſhes were in vaine: for now the time was come, that the Devil would be paid for the knowledge that he had lent them he would not tarry any longer, but then tooke them in the height of their wickedneſſe, and bereft them of their lives.

When the Tempeſt was ended, (which did greatly affright the Townes there by) the Townes-men found the bodies of theſe two men, (Vandermaſt and Bungey) breathleſſe, and ſtrangely burnt with fire. The one had Chriſtian burthall, becauſe of his Order ſake: the other, becauſe he was a ſtranger. Thus was the end of theſe two famous Conjurors.

How Miles would coniure for money, and how hee broke his legges for feare.

Miles one day finding his Maſters Study open, ſtole out of it one of his Coniuring-Bookes: with this Booke would Miles needs coniure for ſome money: (for he ſaw that his Maſter had money enough, and he deſired the like, which did make him bold to trouble one of his Maſters Devils:) in a private place hee thought it beſt to doe it; therefore he went up to the top of the houſe, and there began to reade: Long had he not read, but a Devil came to him in an ugly ſhape, and asked him what he would haue? Miles being affrighted, could not ſpeake, but ſtood quaking there like an Aſpin leafe: the Devil ſeeing him ſo, (to increaſe his feare) raiſed a tempeſt,

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pest, and hurled fire about, which made Miles leape from off the Leades, and with his fall, broke his legge.

Fryer Bacon hearing this noyse, ranne forth, and found his man Miles on the ground, and the Denill hurling fire on the house top. First laid he the Denill againe: Then went he to his man, and asked him how hee got that broken legge? He told him, his Denill did it: for he had frightened him, and made him leape off from the house top. What diddest thou there, (said his Master?) I went to censure, Sir (said Miles) for money; but I haue gotten nothing but a broken leg; and I now must beg for money to cure that, if you be not the more pittifull to me. I haue oftentimes giuen you warning not to meddle with my bookes (said his Master) and yet you will still be doing: take heed, you had best, how you deale with the Denill againe: for he that had power to breake your leg, will breake your necke, if you againe doe meddle with him: for this I doe forgive you: for your legge breaking hath paid for your sawcinesse: and though I gave you not a broken head, I will giue you a plaister: and so sent him to the Chirurgions.

How two young Gentlemen that came to Fryer Bacon, to know how their fathers did killed one another; and how Fryer Bacon for griefe, did breake his rare Glasse wherein he could see any thing that was done within fifty miles about him.

It is spoken of before now, that Fryer Bacon had a Glasse, which was of that excellent nature, that any man might behold any thing that he desired to see, within the compasse of fifty miles round about him: With this Glasse hee had pleased others kinds of people;

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people; for Fathers did oftentimes desire to see (there-
by) how their Childzen did, and Childzen how their Pa-
rents did; one Friend how another did; and one Enemy
(sometimes) how his Enemies did: so that from far they
would come to see this wonderfull Glasse. It happened
one day, that there came to him two yong Gentlemen,
(that were Countrey men, and Neighbozs childzen) for
to know of him by his Glasse, how their Fathers did:
He being no niggard of his canning, let them see his
Glasse, wherein they straight beheld their wishes, which
they (through their owne follies) bought at their liues
losses, as you shall heare.

The Fathers of these two Gentlemen, (in their
Sonnnes absence) were become great foes: this hatred
betweene them was growne to that height, that where-
soeuer they met, they had not onely words, but blowes:
Just at that time, as it should seme, that their Sonnes
were looking to see how they were in health, they were
met, and had dyatone, and were together by the eares.
Their Sonnes seeing this, (and hauing been alwayes
great friends) knew not what to say to one another,
but beheld each other with angry lookes: At last, one
of their Fathers, as they might perceiue in the Glasse,
had a fall, and the other taking aduantage, stood ouer
him ready to strike him: The Sonne of him that was
downe, could then containe himselfe no longer, but
told the other yong man, this his Father had recei-
ued wrong. He answered againe, that it was faire. At
last there grew such foule words betweene them, and
their bloods were so heated, that they presently stabbed
one the other with their Daggers, and so fell downe
dead.

Fryer Bacon seeing them fall, ranne to them, but
it was too late; for they were breathlesse ere he came.
This made him to grieve exceedingly: he iudging that
they had receiued the cause of their deaths by this his

The famous History

Glasse, took the Glasse in his hand, and uttered words to this effect :

Wretched Bacon, wretched in thy knowledge, in thy understanding wretched; for thy Art hath been the ruine of these two Gentlemen. Had I been busied in those holy things, the which mine order tyeth me to, I had not had that time that made this wicked Glasse: Wicked I well may call it, that is the cause of so wilde an Act: would it were sensible, then should it feele my wrath; but being as it is, Ile ruine it for ruining of them: and with that he brake his rare and wonderfull Glasse, whose like the whole world had not. In this griefe of his, came there newes to him of the deaths of Vandermaet and Fryer Bungey: This did increase his griefe, and made him so sorrowfull, that in three dayes he would not eat any thing but kept his Chamber.

How Fryer Bacon burnt his books of Magick, and gaue himselfe to the study of Diuinity onely; and how he turned Anchorite.

IN the time that Fryer Bacon kept his Chamber, hee fell into diuers meditations: sometimes into the vanity of Arts and Sciences: then would hee condemne himselfe for studying of those things that were so contrary to his Order, and soules health; & would say, that Magicke made a Man a Deuill: sometimes would hee meditate on Diuinity; then would he cry out vpon himselfe, for neglecting the study of it, and for studying Magick: sometimes would he meditate on the shortnesse of mans life, then would hee condemne himself for spending a time so short, so ill as he had bene his: so would hee goe from one thing to another, and in all condemne his former studies.

And

of Fryer B A C O N.

And that the world should know how truly he did repent his wicked life, he caused to be made a great fire, and sending for many of his Friends, Schollers, and others, he spake to them after this manner: My good Friends and fellow Students, it is not unknowne unto you, how that through my Art I haue attained to that credit, that few men liuing ever had: Of the wonders that I haue done, all England can speak, both King and Commons: I haue unlocked the secret of Art and Nature, and let the world see those things, that haue layen hid euer since the death of Hermes, that rare and profound Philosopher: My Studies haue found the secrets of the Starres; the Bookes that I haue made of them, doe serue for Presidents to our greatest Doctors, so excellent hath my Iudgement bene therein. I likewise haue found out the secret of Trees, Plants, and Stones, with their seuerall vses; yet all this knowledge of mine I esteeme so lightly, that I wish that I were ignorant, and knew nothing: for the knowledge of these things, (as I haue truly found) serueth not to better a man in goodnesse, but onely to make him proud, and thinke too well of himselfe. What hath all my knowledge of Natures secrets gained me? Onely this, the losse of a better knowledge, the losse of diuine Studies, which makes the immortall part of man (his Soule) blessed. I haue found, that my knowledge hath bene a heauy burden, and hath kept downe my good thoughts: but I will remove the cause, which are these Bookes: which I doe purpose here before you all to burne. They all intreated him to spare the Bookes, because in them there were those things that after-ages might receiue great benefit by. He would not hearken vnto them, but threw them all into the fire, and in that flame burnt the greatest learning in the world. Then did he dispose of all his goods; some part he gaue to poore Schollers, and some he gaue to other poore folkes; nothing left he for him.

The famous History, &c.

himselfe: then caused he to be made in the Church wall
a Cell, where he locked himselfe in, and there remained
till his death. His time hee spent in Prayer, Medita-
tion, and such Divine Exercises, and did sake by all
meanes to perswade men from the study of Magicke.
Thus lived he some two yeres space in that Cell, ne-
uer coming forth: his meat and drinke he receiued in
at a window, and at that window he did discourse with
those that came to him: His grane he digged with his
owne nayles, and was laid there when he dyed. Thus

was the Life and Death of this famous Fryer,

who lived most part of his life a

Magician, and dyed a true

penitent Sinner,

and an An-

chozite.

FINIS.

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